招き猫神社のテンテコ舞いな日々

THE FORTUNE CAT SHRINE'S HECTIC DAYS

CHAPTER 2

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CHAPTER 2
Resignation Letter
I CAN'T WORK WITH YOU ANYMORE.
GOODBYE, IWAKURA.
YOU CAN DEAL WITH EVERYTHING ELSE BY YOURSELF.

THE COMPANY I BUILT WENT UNDER IN A LITTLE LESS THAN TWO YEARS
BECAUSE MY BUSINESS PARTNER STABBED ME IN THE BACK
EVEN THOUGH I TRIED TO GET IT BACK UP ON ITS FEET, HE TOOK ALMOST ALL OF MY CLIENTS AND EMPLOYEES
IN THE END, THERE WAS NOTHING I COULD DO
...'TRUST'.
I'VE ALREADY KNOWN FOR A LONG TIME HOW SHALLOW THAT WORD IS, HAVEN'T I?
THROB
IT'S MAKING MY CHEST HURT THIS MUCH.

I'M SO STUPID.
Uh...
UGH...
すり
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING HERE?!
Flap!
rustle
zzz
zzz
COVERED IN HAIR

fuaah
IT'S ONE OF THE FEW ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE FOOLISH HUMAN RACE.
IT'S NICE TO SLEEP ON A FUTON AFTER A LONG TIME...
YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING ME!
scratch
scratch
WELL, WE STILL MIGHT DRAIN YOUR SOUL BY ACCIDENT.
WE'LL ONLY KEEP OURSELVES FROM EATING THE HUMANS WHO ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR MAKING THE FUTON AND KOTATSU.
Finally got all that hair off
LOOKS LIKE IT WASN'T A DREAM
fuaah
mmeow
WAS THAT A THREAT JUST NOW?
DON'T WORRY, NO ONE WOULD EAT AN AWFUL-TASTING HUMAN LIKE YOU.
TORA

I STILL HAVEN'T WRAPPED MY MIND AROUND THE FACT THAT THEY'RE YOUBYOU
MAYBE IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO MAKE THEM DISAPPEAR WITHOUT LEAVING ANY TRACE
OOH!
Don't touch it!
pc
I'M A HOME-BASED CONSULT-ANT!
I'M DEFINITELY NOT A NEET!
to
ss
IS THIS THE SO-CALLED "COMPLITER"?
A MUST-HAVE FOR NEETS!
AH! WHEN DID YOU-
WHAT BOOK?
WE HAVEN'T READ ANYTHING ABOUT IT IN THAT BOOK
WHAT'S THAT?
Home-based?
Consult?

KIDS!
WE'RE NOT KIDS. WE'RE ALREADY MORE THAN A HUNDRED YEARS OLD
BLA
YOU'RE JOKING, RIGHT?!
WE KEEP OUR APPEARANCE FROM THE TIME WE TRANSFORMED INTO YOUSYOU.
THERE'S A DIFFERENT ISSUE LYING ON THE ROADSIDE EVERY WEDNESDAY.
JEEZ
THAT'S WHY YOU'RE IGNORANT AND ALONELY.
"ALONELY"?
ALONE AND LONELY.
WELL, PEOPLE STILL COME TO THIS SHRINE
GOOD FOR YOU, THEN.
MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS!

thud
HE'S MORE OF A DEMON, THEN
THEY'RE ALREADY A HUNDRED WITH THAT FORM? HOW OLD IS TORA THEN? FIVE-HUNDRED? A THOUSAND?
SO THERE REALLY ARE WORSHIPPERS
STILL COMING TO THIS RUN-DOWN SHRINE
WHAT A PAIN.
...EXCUSE ME.

I SEE.
MY NAME IS MATSU-KAWA. I LIVE NEARBY.
NICE TO MEET YOU
NICE TO MEET YOU, TOO
ARE YOU THE NEW CARETAKER HERE?
EH- UM, YES, I AM.
Well then,
I SHOULD START WORKING.
sneak
BOW
SEE YOU AROUND
UMM.
Huh

A FEW MINUTES AGO
IF I HEAR YOU SAY EVEN ONE COMPLAINT, I'LL SEND YOU FLYING.
WHEN MORNING COMES, YOU'RE TO CLEAN THE SHRINE GROUNDS (HOUSE INCLUDED)
WHAT WAS MY JOB AGAIN?
scrub
scrub
BEAT-UP
JUST GET SOMEONE ELSE TO DO THIS!!
And I'll know if you're slacking off
OOF
kick
BY THE WAY, WHERE'S TORA?
DUNNO
haven't seen him anywhere
WE DON'T CARE ABOUT THAT STUPID IDIOT.
HARSH.
NOT INTERESTED

wobble
wobble
DAMN, THE PLACE WHERE HE KICKED ME STILL HURTS
OW...
I PROBABLY SHOULD ALSO COLLECT WHAT'S IN THE OFFERTORY BOX
creak
ka-chak
I KNOW THERE'S NOT MUCH MONEY IN HERE, BUT— OH WELL.
A SMALL SUM OF MONEY IS GOOD, TOO

"I WISH I'D BE ABLE TO MARRY RICH MAN"
"A PROSPEROUS BUSINESS"
"I HOPE I WIN THE LOTTERY"
PFFT-HA-!
This one's too lively
Why?
unfold
WHAT'S THIS?
I wish to see my daughter again
flap!!!
UMA
EACH ONE OF THEM IS TIED TO A MOUSE (-LOOKING THING).
One of them looks more like a tsuchinoko though.
WAS THERE A RUMOR THAT YOUR WISHES WILL STILL COME TRUE IF YOU PRESENT AN OFFERING OTHER THAN MONEY?

THAT GOT HEAVY WITH THIS LAST ONE.
.....
HEY!!
THE MANU-SCRIPT FOR THE NEXT LECTURE IS—
thunk
Huh?!
toss
OH WELL EVERYTHING'S JUNK ASIDE FROM THE MONEY
NOW I REALLY NEED TO CONTINUE WITH MY WORK.

WHERE'S THIS RAP MUSIC COMING FROM?
OUTSIDE?!
g a p g a k d e
u a 9 k 4 h t 5 u
r 787 a w…
thump
thump
Wha-
Huh?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING OVER THERE?!
SLAM
HEY
YO!
THEY CAN'T HEAR ME!
shake
shake
Those tracksuits... they're from the middle school nearby, huh
Stop!
We're totally not in sync!

SINCE IT'S COME TO THIS...
OHH
WHAT THE HECK, OJISAN ?!
Oi... But I'm just 27
I SHOULD BE THE ONE ASKING YOU THAT.
WHAT MADE YOU THINK YOU COULD PLAY RAP MUSIC IN THESE SACRED GROUNDS?
YOU'RE ALL UNWANTED GUESTS HERE DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE ALL ASPIRING TO BE MIKO?
HAH? WHO WANTS TO BE A MIKO?

WHAT THE HECK'S THAT? IT'S SHORT FOR "GIRLS SEVEN"!
YOU MEAN THE GROUP OF 7, WHICH CONSISTS OF THE COUNTRIES WITH THE MOST ADVANCED ECONOMIES?
Before Russia joined
AND OUR GROUP HAS A NAME! IT'S "G7"!
YOU BETTER CALL US THAT!
HAA?!
IF YOU INSIST ON STAYING, THEN I'LL HAVE TO REPORT YOU
ANYWAY, YOU'RE INTERFERING WITH MY WORK
WHAT'S UP WITH THESE GIRLS...
YOU MIDGET!
SO MEAN!
I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS!
WELL I'M STILL TALLER THAN ALL OF YOU!

Okay, so
WHY DON'T YOU JUST PRACTICE AT SCHOOL?
IT'S A MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL DANCE COMPETITION
IF YOU MANAGE TO BREAK THROUGH THE DISTRICT QUALIFIERS, THEN YOU'LL BE FEATURED ON TV!
THREE MONTHS!
IT SHOULD BE FINE TO GO HERE UNTIL THE SUMMER DANCE KOUSHIEN!
DANCE KOUSHIEN?
These girls are so cheeky
IF WE COULD DO THAT, THEN WE WOULDN'T HAVE COME HERE IN THE FIRST PLACE!
So he's "oniisan" to you...
He's sooo handsome~
guh
BESIDES, WE ALREADY GOT PERMISSION TO GO HERE FROM ONE OF THE PEOPLE IN THE SHRINE.
EH?
WE GOT IT FROM THAT KIMONO-WEARING ONIISAN WITH THE PIERCING STARE.
FROM HIM?!

YOU BETTER DO. MIDDLE SCHOOL GIRLS SHOULDN'T BE OUT WALKING AROUND TOWN THAT LATE AT NIGHT!
OF COURSE, WE'LL ALSO KEEP OUR PROMISE. WE'LL GO HOME BY SEVEN IN THE EVENING
I HAVEN'T AGREED TO THIS YET—
WELL, THAT'S THAT. SO PLEASE LOOK AFTER US FOR THE REST OF SUMMER, OJISAN!
HEY!
trample
YOU STILL CONSIDER SEVEN IN THE EVENING "LATE AT NIGHT"?
Then how about the students who go to cram school?
GYAHAHA!
That was funny~!
THE KIMONO ONIISAN ALSO TOLD US, "THE ONLY TIME YOU'RE REALLY FREE IS WHEN YOU'RE STILL STUDENTS".
THAT WAS KINDA OLD-SCHOOL, RIGHT?

ALL OF THEM...
...JUST KEEP ON DOING WHAT THEY WANT!
WHAT THE HELL IS TORA THINKING?!
- to be continued